

"MIRACLE of FLEET STREET"

By W. N. Ewer

in the American Federationist

IT WAS Lord Northcliffe—the pioneer of modern "popular" journalism in Britain—who christened the London Daily Herald the "miracle of Fleet Street." I thought I knew everything there was to know about the newspaper business," he said once, back in the Twenties. "But these fellows have something I do not understand."

That was long before the paper which began as a strike sheet had become a daily newspaper with a circulation of over 2,000,000 copies all over Britain. But Northcliffe sensed that this would come. It all began 39 years ago. In January, 1911, the printers of London were striking for a 50-hour week. On January 28 they published a strike sheet. They called it the Daily Herald. It was a small four-page paper—price, a halfpenny; print, order 13,000 a day, which amounted to 25,000. Purely a strike sheet, it was a sprinkling of general news. And when the strike ended (with, by the way, victory for the strikers) the first Daily Herald expired too. But an idea had been born. For the first time there had been a daily labor paper in the United Kingdom. The thing could be done. It must be done again.

Provisional Committee

A provisional committee was formed. Its members included George Isaacs, now the Minister of Labor; Ben Tillet, the famous dockers' leader; and George Lansbury, then a newly-elected M.P. "We were acclaimed as crazy lunatics," Lansbury wrote of those first days. No wonder. The committee appealed for 10,000 pounds, which even they thought the bare minimum required to start a daily paper. They raised only 300 pounds—and decided to go ahead.

On April 16, 1912, the first number appeared. The London Daily Herald had been published without a break ever since—except that during the 1914-18 war it became a weekly.

Just how it managed to survive nobody quite remembers. Of course the sheer daring of the enterprise was an asset. Once the paper existed, it was easier to raise money to keep it going. The money came in in sixpences from thousands of rank and file workers, in large sums from well-to-do men and women who were Socialists or sympathizers, or who just admired the bravery of it all.

One rigid rule was kept. No "subscriber" ever had any voice in the control of the paper.

Run On Shoestring

Of course, the paper was run on a shoestring. Paper bills and printing bills had to be paid. Wages—whenever there was money in the till to pay them. Outside contributors—and they included men like G. K. Chesterton and Hilaire Belloc—of course never expected payment.

"Rebel" was the word the Daily Herald proudly used of itself. It fought for the Dublin strikers, for the suffragettes, for Indian nationalists, for American Negroes. No doubt the paper was often unwise. But it was always completely honest and completely fearless.

"We did not make our paper pay," Lansbury wrote later. "We spent other people's money like

water and ourselves unsparingly."

More Humanitarian

Toward the end of 1913 Lansbury himself took over the editorship. He did not alter the policy. But he did change the tone. He could never bear what he used laughingly to call "the good old gospel of hate." Under "G.L." the paper became less fierce in method, more humanitarian in tone.

Then came World War I and unsurmountable financial difficulties. Lansbury turned the paper into a weekly and at once began preparing for a bigger and better Daily when the war should end. The Daily Herald of 1914 was a miracle of survival, but its influence was negligible. When the war ended, the Herald was almost a national institution—a powerful political force. Its circulation, which had been perhaps 50,000, was now nearer 250,000.

Enthusiasm for the new Daily Herald was great. It had been the consistent champion of trade union rights throughout the war. And the unions had come to look on it as indispensable. So did union leaders who had vehemently disagreed with its policy of pacifism.

Raised 200,000 Pounds

Lansbury appealed for 40,000 pounds. He raised nearly 200,000 pounds, most of it from unions, which became stockholders. It was not enough, but it had to suffice. An able and brilliant team of journalists had been recruited.

For sheer quality of journalism the new Daily Herald had no fear of competition. Its trouble was lack of money. It had none to spend on development, or even on essentials.

The next three years were years of acute financial stress. Without adequate capital for development, the paper could not make ends meet in the intense competitive struggle of Fleet Street. And it had no capital. It was still desperately short of funds, struggling for existence.

There was a time when the staff gave up, a third of its small salaries to keep it going. There was a time when for a few months the price of the paper was raised to twopence (all other "popular" papers being a penny) and lost hardly any circulation.

A "Miracle"

That was the moment when Northcliffe decided that the Herald was a "miracle." If he had raised the price of his Daily Mail to twopence it would have died in a week. The Herald did it—and survived.

But this could not go on indefinitely. There was only one way out. The Labor movement itself must shoulder financial responsibility for a paper which had become indispensable to it. Arthur Henderson, the secretary of the Labor Party, later Foreign Secretary, was the man who mainly arranged the transfer. In September, 1922, the Daily Herald became the property of the Labor movement and its official organ. The shares were vested equally in the executive of the Labor Party and the General Council of the Trades Union Congress. Another chapter in the paper's history opened.

Paid Its Way

In 1923, for the first time in

ten years, the paper paid its way and even showed a tiny profit. The coming to office of the first Labor government in 1924 gave it new prestige and a new status. It no longer struggled desperately for existence.

George Lansbury took the opportunity to retire. For ten years he had not only edited the paper but had kept it alive. He had been one of the founders in 1913. He had been the founder of the new daily in 1919. He had raised the money, acquired the plant, recruited the staff, pleaded creditors. George Lansbury could have become a successful and wealthy man of business. He chose otherwise. He made no money, but he made the Daily Herald.

Now Established

From how on the story becomes, by comparison, dull. The exciting days of the struggle for existence were over. The romantic period was past. The Daily Herald was now an established national newspaper.

But its difficulties were by no means past. Its printing plant was small and old-fashioned. Its circulation organization was inadequate. Its rivals were boosting circulation by free insurance schemes and other costly devices. They printed in Manchester as well as London. Their news services were better, for the Herald's resources were still limited.

So, while its rivals had circulations of 1,000,000 or more, the Daily Herald limped along with a mere 250,000 or so. And there seemed no way out of this dilemma.

And then, in 1929, a new way was suddenly opened. The old established British printing firm of Odhams, printers mainly of magazines and periodicals, had bought a non-political Sunday newspaper called The People and made a great commercial success of it. The firm had a trade organization second to none. It had big financial resources. It had a plant which could print 1,000,000 papers a day. It had all that the Herald needed.

The then chairman of Odhams, Julius Elias, once an East End newsboy, had strong Labor sympathies. He made a proposal of marriage.

A new company was formed. Odhams, providing plant, organization and capital, owned 54 per cent of the shares. The Trades Union Congress owned 4 per cent. But it was laid down in the articles of association that in all questions of policy the directors appointed by the T.U.C. were to have complete control. And for two decades this arrangement has worked—with remarkably little trouble or friction.

"Popular" Paper

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This, then, is the story of how a paper in Great Britain, started with a capital of only 300 pounds, has become a great national labor paper with a 2,000,000 circulation daily. There is a big difference between the Herald of 1913 and the Herald of 1950. But the continuity is complete. And for those who have watched its checkered life Britain's daily labor newspaper still seems, as Northcliffe said, the "miracle of Fleet Street."

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WELCOME BUT LATE

Western Powers with colonial interests in Asia have developed recently a sudden interest in the diet and living conditions of those hundreds of millions of dark and yellow colored people who gather the rubber, dig the tin, and plant the rice in the paddies. Conferences are being held by representatives of these governments here and there and reports of UNESCO are studied

on the "welfare" of the coolie and the untouchable.

Some publicity is leaking out in the "press" about the incredible poverty and degradation of these human ants swarming over Asia and its tropical islands. One report disclosed that these people live in perpetual hunger, the average in life of the Hindu, for instance, is 12 ounces of grain per day, and not much else. Living conditions are so primitive that the life expectancy is only about 30 years compared with 65 years in Western industrial countries.

Of course, these conditions were known to exist, all through the years of the white man's colonial rule. But nobody bothered much to rectify them as long as the tin, the rubber and mahogany were coming in in ample quantities. A few missionaries established hospitals and schools and paraded the message of brotherly love, which did not materially affect the social economic picture.

Why, then, this sudden concern about how much these people eat and wear? You have guessed it. Since the end of hostilities these millions have been stirring for self-rule, and national independence. Militant elements in these countries have organized in violent opposition to the colonial rule and exploitation of both the white and native master class. Attempts were made to subdue them as "bandits" and Communists, but without much success. The revolt continued. When China ousted their despotic Chiang Kai-shek in spite of American military support, at least some of the Western Powers realized that this general social upheaval could not be subdued by military action alone. It dawned upon the white sahib that all this eastern area of the world with its hundreds of millions of people will be lost to Western influence unless their standards of life are lifted to give some meaning to the term democracy.

It is significant and gratifying that the leadership in this belated action is furnished by the Socialist government of Great Britain, and the nations of the Commonwealth. While Britain is still fighting guerrilla insurgents in Malaya and supporting French "police action" in Indo-China, it has granted self-government to several colonial areas such as India, Burma and Ceylon. Britain is also fighting for the recognition of the Peking government of China by the U.N.O. The great stumbling block in the United States of America, which fails to understand the

NOT THE ONLY BLACK SPOT

Editor, People's Weekly.
Sir: I have read with deep interest Mr. Roper's comments on conditions in Korea, in a recent issue, and am wondering if he had heard or read of conditions in the Southern States of the United States of America?

In that section of America, ignorance, superstition, voodooism, and every type of ignorance prevails to this day. The colored people actually live in conditions which prevailed when Cortez conquered Mexico several hundred years ago. A very few at the top are educated, but the lower thousands live in dense, inextinguishable ignorance and depravity.

Education as we know it has not touched the masses in the deep South. Instead of sending the sinners to Korea, China, Japan and elsewhere, we could send them to Alabama, Mississippi, Florida and Louisiana, nearer home, with plenty of material on which to work.

Not only the colored people but the "white trash", as it is called in the Southern States, could do with education, social justice and all manner of mental and moral improvement. Recent travellers to the South declare that inexcusable ignorance, cruelty and overlords are rampant.

"So, let us not shed any tears over conditions in Korea and China until we sweep our own North America clean of wrong and ignorance. Our churches, if they MUST send missionaries away, should send them to the Southern States of America, where they could reap a rich harvest of education and enlightenment with far less cost."

Yours for education,
BERT HUFFMAN.
C/O No. 15,
Westminster, B.C.

MARGARINE AND ECONOMIC HEALTH

Editor, People's Weekly.
Sir: Your correspondent (G.S.) writes a smart letter dealing with the problem of margarine. In this fairly free and friendly controversy, G. S. is, of course, entitled his view, and all Communists, kindly note!
It is, of course, hard to see how the 130,000,000 pounds of the latter substitute, processed since the ban was first lifted, could have done any particular good to Canada's great dairy farmers. My opposition to margarine is limited, and strictly conditioned to its power to damage the nation's dairy farming establishment. According to a recent press statement by the C.P.A. chief (H. H. Hannam, Ottawa), the butter substitute is seriously undermining the nature of the social conflict in Asia.

The concern with Asiatic poverty is a belated action. Five precious years have been lost, during which a great deal could have been accomplished in these areas. One cannot help but speculate on what the condition in India, China and other Eastern countries might have been if the Western Powers had supported these nations with food, agricultural machinery and technical assistance instead of billions of dollars worth of dive bombers, tanks and machine guns. It makes one skeptical of capital's capacity or ability to save itself from obliteration by orderly adjustment to the social needs of our times. Every adjustment it undertakes seems to be under duress as belated action: Too little and too late.

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in such case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 300 words in length.

mining" the dairy industry. As to this, I purpose awaiting further data; but if this menace can be substantiated, then—in the light of new facts—I think it will be the duty of the controlling authorities (now definitely located as being at the provincial level, in Edmonton, Regina and Winnipeg) to deal with this "hot potato" in a realistic way.

When all has been said and done—either for or against the butter substitute—it must be agreed that it is purely a matter of evaluating the effects of this industrial commodity upon the nation's economic health. Obviously a price advantage of, say, \$20; 000,000 annually would be a costly luxury if, in fact, margarine lowers the buying power of, say, 350,000 of our dairy farmers across Canada.

"TORONTONIAN."

WHO IS RIGHT?

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: In his "Back to the Bible" talks, I note that the premier of Alberta condemns the idea of "World Government" with a "World Police Force" as entirely hopeless or worse.

Now my picture of world progress is toward wider and wider human unity until mankind becomes one family. It has seemed to me that that was the teaching of Jesus. It has seemed to me that He does not want the world to be divided as it is today into differing camps threatening one another, with war or annihilation. We read in John 17:22 that He prayed the Father, "That they

may be one even as we are one." In Matthew 23:8 He said: "All ye are brethren," and in Matthew 6:9 He taught us when we pray to say, "Our Father."

National sovereignty, decentralization, division with the ever-present possibility of disagreement and war seems to be the message of Mr. Manning.

That the world might be as brothers, united in peace, seems to be the message of "The Prince of Peace".

These are two widely differing ideals. We wonder who is right, the premier of Alberta or "The Christ of the Old Rugged Cross"?
I. V. MACKLIN.
Grande Prairie, Alta.

STRUGGLING AGAINST HOPELESS ODDS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: Amid the rejoicing and acclaim which has been manifested by a few politicians, many writers and news commentators and some consumers over the recent decision of the privy council with regard to the presumed illegality of the banning by the federal government of margarine, it might be well to consider calmly the problems created by all this ill-advised agitation.

First, with regard to the consumer. During the past six or eight years when the cost of living was rising, I have been amazed at the wails of some consumers (not all, but a few) howling about the price of butter in a situation in which for the first time in a quarter of a century the dairy farmer was getting something

fairly resembling city wages and some kind of a standard of living while milking cows. Yes, I might further say that with the exception of about a year in the latter part of and after World War I, with this exception and the period just before margarine was reintroduced recently, all the rest of my life covering well over half a century, I have seen others and milked cows myself at prices far below the cost of production and not a word of appreciation for this slave labor, butter and milk on the tables of these same politicians, consumers, etc. And with all these butter price agitations not a whisper about the prices of other goods and services, not a word about the inevitable burden of the profit system.

"Today the dairy farmers of Canada are struggling against almost hopeless odds. It will be a sad day indeed for Canada if we lose that vital and foundation industry in exchange for saving a few cents in the daily menu of our people. Less by far than the cost of the daily package of cigarettes and the further privilege of sending out many millions of Canadian dollars for imported oils, fats and grease."

Another point which nobody is paying any attention to is this—if the federal government under this decision has not the power to ban a commodity, what, I ask you, is the position of the whole Canadian grading system? (A very good system, by the way, as far as it goes.) Just take a minute and think that one over. What if mess we will be in with possibly nine or ten different provincial grading systems in this Dominion of ours. That is one of the possibilities. It is now up to the provinces to give the farmer the necessary protection and to restore some order in the present chaos in the dairy industry in Canada.

In conclusion, the action of some farmers (fortunately few in number) in patronizing this conglomerate of imported oils and fats in relation to their fellow-producers in one of the noblest callings on earth, is comparable only to that of trusting, Gozenko and Judas Iscariot.

Yours,
JACK SUTHERLAND.
Hanna, Alberta.

LABOR DIRECTORY

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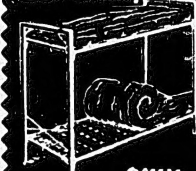
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It all began 39 years ago. In January, 1911, the printers of London were striking for a 60-hour week. On January 25 they published a strike sheet. It was called the Daily Herald. "It was a small four-page paper—priced a halfpenny; print order 15,000 a day, which amounted to 25,000. Purely a strike sheet, with just a sprinkling of general news. And when the strike ended (with, by the way, victory for the strikers) the first Daily Herald ended too."

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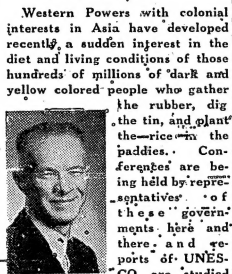
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on the "welfare" of the coolie and the untouchable.

Some publicity is leaking out in the press about the incredible poverty and degradation of these human ants swarming over Asia and its tropical islands. One report disclosed that these people live in perpetual hunger, the average intake of the Hindu, for instance, is 12 ounces of grain per day, and not much else. Living conditions are so primitive that the life expectancy is only about 30 years compared with 65 years in Western industrial countries.

Of course, these conditions were known to exist all through the years of the white man's colonial rule. But nobody bothered much to rectify them as long as the tin, the rubber and mahogany were coming in in ample quantities. A few missionaries, established hospitals and schools and carried the message of brotherly love, which did not materially affect the social economic picture.

Why, then, this sudden concern about how much these people eat and wear? You have guessed it. Since the end of hostilities these empires have been stirring "self-rule and national independence. Militant elements in these countries have organized in violent opposition to the colonial rule and exploitation of both the white and native master class. Attempts were made to subdue them as "bandits" and Communists, but without much success. The revolt continued. When China ousted their despotic Chiang Kai-shek in spite of American military support, at least some of the Western Powers realized that this general social upheaval could not be subdued by military action alone. It dawned upon the white sahib that all this eastern area of the world with its hundreds of millions of people will be lost to Western influence unless their standards of life are lifted to give some meaning to the term democracy.

It is significant and gratifying that the leadership in this belated action is furnished by the Socialist government of Great Britain, and the nations of the Commonwealth. While Britain is still fighting guerrilla insurgents in Malaya and supporting French "police action" in Indo-China, it has granted self-government to several colonial areas such as India, Burma and Ceylon. Britain is also fighting for the recognition of the Peking government of China by the U.N.O. The great stumbling block is the United States of America, which fails to understand the

NOT THE ONLY BLACK SPOT

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I have read with deep interest Mr. Roper's comments on conditions in Korea, in a recent issue, and am wondering if he had heard or read of conditions in the Southern States of the United States of America?

In that section of America, ignorance, superstition, voodooism, and every type of ignorance prevails to this day. The colored people actually live in conditions which prevailed when Cortez conquered Mexico several hundred years ago. A very few at the top are educated, but the lower two-thirds live in dense, inexcusable ignorance and depravity.

Education as we know it has not touched the masses in the deep South. Instead of sending missionaries to Korea, China, Japan and elsewhere, we could send them to Alabama, Mississippi, Florida and Louisiana; nearer home, with plenty of material on which to work.

Not only the colored people but the "white trash," as it is called in the Southern States, could do with education, social justice and all manner of mental and moral improvement. Recent travellers to the South declare that inexcusable ignorance, cruelty and overlords are rampant.

So, let us not shed any tears over conditions in Korea and China, until we sweep our own North America clean of wrong and ignorance. Our churches, if they MUST send missionaries away, should send them to the Southern States of America, where they could reap a rich harvest of education and enlightenment with far less cost.

Yours for education,
BERT HUFFMAN
R.R. No. 5,
New Westminster, B.C.

MARGARINE AND ECONOMIC HEALTH

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: Your correspondent (G.S.) writes a smart letter dealing with the problem of margarine. In this fairly free and friendly democracy, G. S., is of course, entitled to his view, and all Communists, kindly note!

It is, of course, hard to see how the \$30,000,000 pounds of the butter substitute, processed since he ban was first lifted, could have done any particular good to Canada's great dairy farmers. My opposition to margarine is limited, and strictly conditioned, to its power to damage the nation's dairy farming establishment. According to a recent press statement by the C.F.A. chief (H. H. Hannam, Ottawa), the butter substitute is seriously "under-

nature of the social conflict in Asia.

The concern with Asiatic poverty is a belated action. Five precious years have been lost, during which a great deal could have been accomplished in these areas. One cannot help but speculate on what the condition in India, China and other Eastern countries might have been if the Western Powers had supported these nations with food, agricultural machinery, and technical assistance instead of billions of dollars' worth of dive bombers, tanks and machine guns. It makes one skeptical of capitalism's capacity or ability to save itself from oblation by orderly adjustment to the social needs of our times. Every adjustment it undertakes seems to be under duress as belated action! Too little and too late.

The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 300 words, in length.

mining" the dairy industry. As to this, I purpose awaiting further data; but if this menace can be substantiated, then—in the light of new facts—I think it will be the duty of the controlling authorities (now definitely located as being at the provincial level, in Edmonton, Regina and Winnipeg) to deal with this "hot potato" in a realistic way.

When all has been said and done—either for or against the butter substitute—it must be agreed that it is purely a matter of evaluating the effects of this industrial commodity upon the nation's economic health. Obviously a price advantage of, say, \$20,000,000 annually would be a costly luxury if, in fact, margarine lowers the buying power of, say, \$50,000,000 of our dairy farmers across Canada.

"TORONTOIAN"

WHO IS RIGHT?

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: In his "Back to the Bible" talks, I note that the premier of Alberta condemns the idea of "World Government" with a "World Police Force" as entirely hopeless or worse.

Now any picture of world progress is toward wider and wider human unity until mankind becomes one family. It has seemed to me that that was the teaching of Jesus. It has seemed to me that He does not want the world to be divided as it is today into differing camps threatening one another with war or annihilation. We read in John 17:22 that He prayed the Father, "That they

may be one even as we are one." In Matthew 23:8 He said: "All ye are brethren," and in Matthew 6:9 He taught us when we pray to say, "Our Father."

National sovereignty, decentralization, division with the ever-present possibility of disagreement and war seems to be the message of Mr. Manning.

That the world might be as brothers, united in peace, seems to be the message of "The Prince of Peace."

These are two widely differing ideals. We wonder who is right, the premier of Alberta or "The Christ of the Old Rugged Cross"?

I. V. MACKLIN,
Grande Prairie, Alta.

STRUGGLING AGAINST HOPELESS ODDS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: Amid the rejoicing and acclaim which has been manifested by a few politicians, many writers and news commentators and some consumers over the recent decision of the Privy Council with regard to the "presumed illegality" of the banning by the federal government of margarine, it might be well to consider calmly the problems created by all this ill-advised agitation.

First, with regard to the consumer. During the past six or eight years when the cost of living was rising, I have been amazed at the wails of some consumers (not all, but a few) howling about the price of butter in a situation in which for the first time, in a quarter of a century the dairy farmer was getting something

fairly resembling city wages and some kind of a standard of living while milking cows. Yes, I might further say that with the exception of about a year in the latter part of and after World War I, with this exception and the period just before margarine was reintroduced recently, all the rest of my life covering well over half a century, I have seen others and milked cows myself at prices far below the cost of production and not a word of appreciation for this slave labor butter and milk on the tables of these same politicians, consumers, etc. And with all these butter price agitations not a whisper about the prices of other goods and services, not a word about liquor, tobacco, clothes, transportation and other goods and services all produced with the inevitable burden of the profit system.

Today the dairy farmers of Canada are struggling against almost hopeless odds. It will be a sad day indeed for Canada if we lose that vital and foundation industry in exchange for saving a few cents in the daily menu of our people. Less by far than the cost of the daily package of cigarettes and the further privilege of sending out many millions of Canadian dollars for imported oils, fats and grease.

Another point which nobody is paying any attention to, is this: if the federal government under this decision has not the power to ban a commodity, what, I ask you, is the position of the whole Canadian grading system? (A very good system, by the way, as far as it goes.) Just take a minute and think that one over. What a mess we will be in with possibly nine or ten different provincial grading systems in this Dominion of ours. That is one of the possibilities. It is now up to the provinces to give the farmer the necessary protection and to restore some order in the present chaos in the dairy industry in Canada.

In conclusion, the action of some farmers (fortunately few in numbers) in patronizing this conglomeration of imported oils and fats in relation to their fellow producers in one of the noblest callings on earth, is comparable only to that of trusting Gouzenko and Judas Iscariot.

Yours,
JACK SUTHERLAND,
Hamp, Alberta.

LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Offices, Meetings, etc., of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province.

EDMONTON
Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 1325, Edmonton, Alta.; United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, 1142 22 Street; Wm. Sec. J. D. Follard, 2222 1014 Ave.; Treasurer, J. A. S. Smith, 11822 56th Street; Business Agent, J. P. Grange, Phone 21766, Labor Hall.
FIRE FIGHTERS, No. 209, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF—Meets in No. 2, Fire Hall, President A. J. G. Lauder, 14305, 101 Ave., Sec. Treas. J. Graham, 11047, 92 St., Edmonton.

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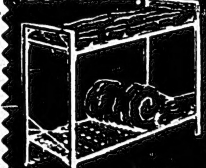
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HOW TO START THE YEAR

WE ARE sure all the members of the C.C.F. in Alberta, and most readers of the *People's Weekly*, would want to join in wishing Director of Organization William Irvine and the officers of the Alberta C.C.F. a "Happy New Year!" Unanimously!

Very Well. Now, let's get practical about it. The most important factor in maintaining the C.C.F. as an alive organization in this province is the maintenance of membership. You can start to make Mr. Irvine and his associates happy immediately by making sure that no one will need to run after YOU to collect your 1951 renewal of membership. How about attending to that little matter right now?

At the November convention a budget was adopted that involved an average collection of approximately ten dollars per member. Many at the convention pledged to pay much more than that but all should try to maintain the average.

Ten dollars per member to keep the C.C.F. alive and active! It seems such an insignificant sum compared to the amounts we spend for trivial things. For what part of the year will ten dollars keep the smoker in cigarettes or tobacco? How many times in the year can you take the family to a show for ten dollars? Count up the number of little things upon which we spend ten dollars in a year and surely we won't hesitate to do as much for the C.C.F.

But the annual membership in the C.C.F. is only two dollars. And a member who feels he or she cannot do more than take care of the minimum membership fee is as important in the C.C.F. as the fellow who can and does send in ten or twenty of a hundred times as much. The main thing is to let Mr. Irvine know you're still with us. Do it now, won't you?

STOP IT NOW!

WHILE the government at Ottawa is still hesitating to take the measures necessary to stop the upward spiral of prices, each day sees the announcement of increase in some important commodity. Sooner or later the government must act. It should do so now.

But it will not be enough to fix prices at the date upon which the government starts price control. There are numerous cases in which manufacturers have deliberately and without any other need or purpose, raised prices in the past month or two because they want to have prevailing the highest possible price when controls start.

These greedy profiteers must not be allowed to get away with that kind of thing. Prices must be fixed in accordance with some formula which will allow for nothing more than a reasonable profit. And there must be an excess profits tax that will ensure that all above a reasonable profit will, through taxation, go back to the people of the country from whom it was taken.

IT'S HARD-TO TAKE

THE *People's Weekly* does not hold with critics of the United States who can see no good at all in anything that country does, internally or externally. The truth is that there is a very large measure of progressive thought and international good will in the United States. The bellicose statements of some of its irresponsible politicians and publicists do not represent the sober views and feelings of the mass of the people or their responsible leaders.

But it must be admitted that some of the public comment in American publications, and on the radio is hard to take. For example, the outbreak of abuse of Britain at the time Prime Minister Attlee was in Washington; references to Britain as a "began-nation" that was ready to "run out" on the United States and the United Nations.

In the current issue of *U.S. News and World Report*, a usually useful and informative journal, the editor, David Lawrence, takes up the cry. Without mentioning Britain by name he writes of the "hypocrisy" and "irresoluteness" of the American's allies. This he says is the real "defeat" in Korea. The comparison is made with 1936 when "Britain and France equivocated and the League of Nations faltered as Hitler committed his aggression in the Rhineland."

Lawrence goes on to say: "We are back to vacillation and timidity—fears of loss of commerce, and unwillingness to face resolutely the facts of international life. We are at the low point where immorality breaks the promises that men are supposed to live by."

This sort of thing is all too common in American publications. Altogether apart from the fact that only ignorance or prejudice could induce anyone to express such drivel about Britain's position in respect to far eastern affairs, it is obviously a little patriot's attempt to find a scapegoat for blunders. The blame for which cannot be laid at Britain's door. All Britain insisted upon, and in this the people and leaders of all parties in Britain are united, is that no foolish impulsiveness shall involve the Western World in a war with China and thus play into Communist Russia's hand.

THE THIRD COLUMN

HOW SILLY CAN THEY GET?

"Labor", Washington, Sept. 23:

"The British Labor Government has given the American papers something else to 'yell' about. It has arranged to pay for needed legal services for its poorer citizens, doing for the man who has to go into court what the Labor government already has done for the man who has to go to a hospital."

"For years, 'legal aid' societies and small claims courts have been set up in various American cities for the same purpose. Such efforts have been generally applauded in the press, but now, when it is put on a legal footing in England, the papers again cry 'Socialism'."

"A Scripps-Howard writer even predicts that every Britisher and his wife will be running to court for a divorce, since the government will pay the cost. That's silly! But nothing is too silly, vulgar or untrue for Scripps-Howard papers since Roy Howard secured control."

PROVIDENCE AND ALBERTA OIL

Brooks Bulletin, Nov. 30:

"Rev. E. G. Hansell, Social Credit member of the House of Commons for the Macleod constituency, said Providence probably arranged for the wide-spread discoveries of oil in Alberta because of the form of government in this province. Says Mr. Hansell: 'Even Providence might have said, "We are not going to place this wealth in the hands of just anybody!"'

"If such be the case we agree with the editor of the *Stettler In*, dependent when he remarked that God moves in a mysterious way."

"Why did Providence arrange for the discovery of oil at Norfinch Wells in the sub-arctic where the product is in such little demand, the population there being composed principally of Indians and Eskimos?"

"Why did Providence plan for oil discoveries in Iraq and Iraq, where the people use little oil, expensive pipe lines have to be constructed, and there is a constant danger of a Russian invasion?"

"Why would Peru and Venezuela, favored when the goodly people of Ontario and the sturdy population of Great Britain were neglected?"

"If what Rev. Hansell says is true, Providence has a lot to answer for. Even Rev. Tommy Douglas, Premier of Saskatchewan, may have a just complaint."

POLITICALLY MATURE

Report of speech by Dr. W. G. Hardy, Professor of Classics, University of Alberta, in Edmonton Journal, Dec. 18:

"When I visited England in 1948, I was impressed by the way in which the people were meeting austerity conditions," the speaker said. "In 1950, more food and more goods appeared in the stores and conditions generally were starting to come back to normal."

"Dr. Hardy believed Britain had reached a greater point of 'political maturity' than any other country."

"The British don't 'jump the gun,'" he said, "but look at all sides of their problems before they act."

FOOTPRINTS

By J. P. GRIFFIN

"Consider the lily how it grows."



A MID THE complications of life how difficult it becomes for us to remember the simplicity of first things! And yet, there is not an assurance and strength to be garnered from the contemplation of nature's eternal rhythm, the time of sowing, the time of growing, and the crowning joy of harvest?

We are at last beginning to recognize how beautiful the provisions of nature are when we see people have not interfered with the unchanging methods by which she works her miracles of production. Not in so thinking do we overlook the possibilities of increased production which comes from intelligent co-operation with the laws of nature and growth.

In his book, *"Of the Beloved Country"*, Alan Paton speaks of the unspoiled grass as "holy, being even as it came from the Creator." "Keep it," he continues, "guard it; care for it, for it keeps men, guards men, cares for men. Destroy it, and man is destroyed."

How do the lilies grow, the pines upon the hillsides, the tufts of grass upon the plains? They grow by virtue of their unrestricted contact with the source of life: The buffaloes that once darkened the great Western plains, the myriads of fish that, even yet, inhabit the expanses of the oceans, the uncounted sea birds that live upon the islands that lie along the coast of Peru, all these live, or have lived, where there are no rents to pay, no bailiffs to evade, nor landlords whom they need to fear.

And in these happy days, how

lavishly they multiplied and how sturdily they grew until the trader came upon the scene. The trader with his queer ideas of private ownership, not personal, but private. Not for use, but for exclusion. Not for co-operation, but for confiscation. Then the plains became a cemetery of rotting carcasses, the fishing banks deserted, and the islands "a focus of greed and corruption, and a forgotten centre of dust-gagged misery and slavery."

"Ah, there was land enough in China for men and lilies too! But the exploiters owned it. They stood between God and his children, even insisting on the payments of their rent up to five years in advance. There is land enough in Italy, and in Spain if the landowners will only get out of the way and let God feed his kinsmen there! There is food enough raised upon these Western plains to banish forever the wretched schemes of hungry men. If private greed and selfish enterprise will let the harvests flow into the needy areas of Europe and Africa and Asia.

But no, of all the things of living things upon the face of the earth, man alone denies the bounty of the Creator to his own that he may reap, thereby a profit. He alone, unnecessarily, thrusts himself between the Creator and the created. He, and this is the crowning irony of it, who alone has the intelligence—if we would—to consider the lily, and to understand the way in which it grows.

Timely Topics

By William Irvine

Director of C.C.F. Organization

BARTERING FOR PEACE

Spokesmen for Russia in the councils of the United Nations have declared that there can be no lasting peace until the United Nations admits the Chinese delegation. John Sparkman, a United States delegate, followed by declaring that the "free world" (whatever that means) could not accept such a "bartering of peace."

Meanwhile, the third world war is on. It may not be impossible to stop it at this stage. If a little commonsense which so far has apparently been barred by both sides of the controversy in the U.N., is exercised soon, then civilization is doomed.

"Bartering for peace" is an empty phrase. Why should we not barter for peace? After all, bartering is just a word for trading.

Bartering for peace is, in fact, a better phrase. Why should we not barter for peace? After all, bartering is just a word for trading. It is true that the death of hundreds of millions of people may be better than a barter in which we might lose our souls. But short of that, there is no price too high to be paid for peace. Perhaps it would be to the interest of the human race to do a little bartering. And if admitting China to the United Nations would further

peace, that should be a good barter for in doing so we should be furthering the democratic principle to which we subscribe.

China is being kept out on Communist grounds, not on democratic grounds. If the Chinese want to be Communists that is their own business, not ours.

LABOR AND FARMER

At its annual convention, held in Winnipeg, the Canadian Congress of Labor passed some excellent resolutions. Their resolutions covered a wide range and showed that Labor is attempting to envisage the need of the entire national economy and not just thinking of how to gain an extra cent or two per hour for union members.

Here, for instance, is a resolution passed in favor of farmers. It reads as reported in the press as follows:

"A recommendation for a guaranteed price of \$2.00 a bushel to Canadian farmers for wheat, along with continued exchange of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange from wheat marketing."

There have been occasional resolutions passed by small farmer labor unions against some of Labor's objectives, such as the one passed by a Canadian local during the railway strike, but it is seldom

(Continued on Page 5)

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New Books and Pamphlets

The Literature Committee of the C.C.F. reminds readers that a number of new books and pamphlets are being added to those already on hand.

Facts About C.C.F. Government (Price 10 cents), gives a most interesting picture of increased benefits obtained by the people through the C.C.F. Here, for 10 cents, are the facts and figures which every C.C.F.-er should have.

Wanted: Vital Religion in Politics (Price 5 cents), is a handy pocket size little booklet by Dr. L. F. Donaldson which, quote "P. Moriarty, 25 years secretary of the Y.M.C.A., 'is most insistent in showing that Christian principles, when applied, contain the only sound basis for an economic system'." Dr. Donaldson's subtitle for the pamphlet is "C.C.F. Principles Agree With Christian Ideals".

Who Owns Canada? If you don't already own a copy of this reliable examination of the facts concerning the concentration of control and ownership of the wealth of Canada, send for one now. Price 60 cents.

European Unity (10c)—A new pamphlet which gives the British Labor Party's views on methods by which European unity should be pursued.

Planning For Freedom (Reduced from \$1.25 to 60c). Though written in 1944, the first section of this book discusses issues of vital importance today. Excellent club material.

They'll Ask You (5c)—A primer of C.C.F. questions and answers.

Who Benefits From Sparing Prices? (10c for 30c or 3 for 10c)—An attractively arranged and easily read leaflet, showing just what the soaring cost of living is doing to farmer, labor, soldier, old folks and home—and what it has done to increase monopoly profits. Send for a number of these and pass them on to your neighbors.

Comment—The new C.C.F. up-to-the-minute facts and figures magazine, \$1.00 buys a year's subscription; single copies 10c each. This month's issue, which includes the story of the oil grab, is one you won't want to miss.

(1) **Fifty Years' March**—Francis Williams, \$2.00.

This is the book, recently reviewed in the R.W. by Elmer E. Roper, which tells of the rise and growth of the British Labor Party. An A1 gift for an intelligent friend!

(2) **Guide to Elementary Socialism**—G. D. H. Cole, 15c.

(3) **1 Choice Peace—Zelliss, 35c.**

(4) **The Road Ahead—Laidler, 10c.**

A nicely bound, easily read and understood story of the democratic socialist way of life.

(5) **The Case for Socialism**—Fred Henderson, 35c.

Radio Speaker



A. J. E. LIESEMER, M.L.A., will be the speaker in the "Provincial Affairs" series on Monday, January 15, at 6:45 p.m. with radio stations CFBN, CFBN and CHAT carrying the broadcast.

Sask. Legislation

HELPS FARMERS IN POOR CROP AREAS

REGINA (CPA)—Attorney-General J. W. Cornman of Saskatchewan announced recently that it was his government's intention to help as much as possible deserving farmers who find themselves in a difficult position due to crop failure or near-failure, and cannot pay their debts.

The Saskatchewan Government realizes, said Mr. Cornman, that the farmers of that province had suffered something like a national calamity because of adverse crop conditions, falling prices of farm produce, and rising costs of farm requirements. "The Government was prepared to do everything in its power, in deserving cases, to give protection as far as debts are concerned."

Protect Farmers

He stated that in many parts of Saskatchewan farmers have suffered crop failure, and while most creditors are reasonable in such circumstances, some are insisting on their last pound of flesh. It is against this kind of thing that the C.C.F. government's Farm Security Act, 1944, is intended to protect the farmer.

According to the Act, a farmer with a poor crop, and an execution against him, may not be "cleaned out." A farmer may retain sufficient of the crop to enable him to pay all legitimate costs of harvesting, and to provide a living allowance for himself and family, and costs of farming operations, until the next crop is about to be harvested. He may also retain enough seed grain, to seed all his cultivated land.

Less Than 10 Bushels—The same protection and costs are awarded to farmers with a share of crop mortgage or agreement of sale against them, if their crop is less in value than 10 bushels per acre No. 2 Northern wheat.

These protections are provided by law, but there are many individual cases, the Attorney-General said, which could not be covered by any hard and fast rule. These the Government's Mediation Board considers on their merits, and may grant a moratorium, or stay of seizure, etc.

It is required that farmers seeking the protection of the Farm Security Act apply to their district sheriff, or to the Mediation Board in Regina.

In Civic Field

URGE ABOLITION PROPERTY DEMAND

"When a young man joins the armed services no one asks him if he has any property to defend but when he seeks to serve his city as an alderman or mayor he is debarred unless he owns some of the property he is called upon to protect while serving his country in Korea or Sicily or some place else," said J. W. H. Williams at the Edmonton C.C.F. meeting in December in the I.O.O.F. hall.

Mr. Williams made his comment following a report by Carroll Wenas who presented the C.C.F. objection to property qualifications for civic office at recent meetings of the city by-laws committee and the Edmonton City Council. Mr. Wenas reported that the city council contended that it was bound by the amalgamation agreement with the city of Strathcona approved in 1911. However, he said, the council had intimated that property qualifications for civic office could be abolished if a two-thirds majority on both sides of the river so indicated in a plebiscite.

Before Legislature

It was pointed out by Mr. Wenas that the matter is to come before the Alberta legislature in the forthcoming session when the uniform charter for Alberta cities, which includes a clause to abolish property qualifications for civic office, will be presented. He had been assured, he said, that the proposal to abolish property qualifications would be "strongly backed by C.C.F. Provincial Leader Elmer E. Roper."

Mr. Wenas reminded the meeting that the city of Calgary does not require property qualifications for civic office. Mr. Williams pointed out that the state of Massachusetts abolished property qualifications 110 years ago and it was high time that Edmonton abandoned this archaic provision in the city charter.

Trade Union Support

A trade union representative assured the meeting that the move to abolish property qualifications would be strongly supported when it came before a provincial convention early in the new year.

Roy Jamna, president of the Edmonton C.C.F. was elected as the C.C.F. representative for East Edmonton on the Provincial Board with Walter Mentz as West Edmonton representative. Mrs. Edsel East, chairman, reported on the membership drive.

Art E. Thorntor, N. P. Finmore and Miss Isabel MacMillan were named as a nominating committee for election of officers of the organization, which takes place January 16.

Several interesting sound films, including one on atomic warfare, were shown by Floyd Johnson at the conclusion of the business meeting.

DRAFT INDUSTRIAL LEADERS SAY C.I.O.

CHICAGO (LPA)—If President Truman can't persuade top-flight business leaders to accept important government posts he ought to draft them, according to Philip Murray. Addressing the convention here of the Illinois C.I.O., the national C.I.O. head said: "Our men are being called into armed service. There's no reason why industrial leaders shouldn't also be required to serve their country in this time of need. And I don't mean any secondary people. I mean top-flight people."

EDMONTON WOMEN'S C.C.F. MEETING MONDAY

Edmonton Women's C.C.F. Club will hold its regular meeting at Woodsworth House on Monday, January 8, at 8 p.m.

Timely Topics

(Continued from Page 4)

that any farmers' convention in Canada has come out so clearly for any of Labor's declared objectives as did the Canadian Congress of Labor on wheat marketing and the price of wheat.

Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery said recently "that the safety of the West against any threat that might develop entirely depends on whether nations of the West can co-operate together and gain strength through unity."

It may as truly be said that any threat which may develop domestically through capitalist greed depends on whether the two great bodies of producers, farmers and labor, can co-operate together and gain strength through unity. But as long as those whose desire to rule can only be attained by dividing the people, succeed in getting the farmers to blame high prices of farm machinery on purely imaginary high wages and get the wage-earners to curse the farmers for the high price of steak or hamburger, the masses of the people will be open to the attack of the price-raising profit-seeking racketeers.

1,127,229 CO-OP MEMBERS, CANADA

OTTAWA (CPA)—According to the authoritative Economic Analyst, there were 3,653 co-operatives registered or incorporated in Canada in 1948, having a total membership of 1,127,229. The average size of membership of a co-operative is 500. There is some duplication in the membership, however, particularly in farming communities, where farmers may belong to a producers' co-op as well as a consumers' co-op.

By far the majority of co-operatives in Canada are small in number of members. Among the provinces, Quebec has the largest number with a small membership. This is undoubtedly due to the numerous housing co-operatives, electricity co-operatives, student co-ops and forestry co-ops, where the potential membership is relatively small and also affected by the type of co-operative concerned. The number of Quebec co-operatives with membership of less than 100 is 662. Ontario has 302 co-ops with less than 100 members and Saskatchewan is next with 222.

1900 or Over—Co-operatives having a membership of 1,000 or over number 25 in Ontario, 21 in Alberta, 21 in Saskatchewan, 15 in British Columbia, 14 in Manitoba, and 11 in Quebec. In the Maritime Provinces there are four co-operatives reporting membership greater than 1,000.

There are 18 co-operatives in Canada which report their membership as greater than 10,000. These are distributed as follows: Alberta, 6; Saskatchewan, 5; Manitoba, 5; Ontario, 1; and Quebec, 1. Some of these co-ops with an over-10,000 membership operate in more than one province. For tabulation purposes, membership was considered to be in the province where the head office is situated.

Calling All Women

The Housewife In Labour Sweden

By T. H. GOFF in "Labour Woman"

IN the 1930's, Sweden suffered similar mass-unemployment which characterized the U.S.A. and Europe and a Labour Government was returned, pledged on a public works program. Unemployment quickly dropped and consequently Labor has had the reins of office ever since.

Housewife's Paradise

The housewife's lot in this country of cleanliness is relatively an easy one; her home is built around her needs especially to save her work. Partly by State intervention and partly for climatic reasons, the standard of building construction is very high. The average house space per person is very much lower than expected in England, but the luxuries and amenities are available for every one. Built-in furniture, spacious kitchens fitted out with stainless steel fittings, electric cookers and refrigerators; hall and stair lights which go out automatically after 30 seconds are commonplace. Natural lighting is used as fully as possible, and windows have double panes of glass and are fully draught-proof. Many windows are fitted with ball-bearing pivots so that they can be easily swung inside out for cleaning.

Construction Methods

There are generous building subsidies available to all non-

profit associations and owner-occupiers. To rank for subsidy the building must come up to a high standard and numerous facilities have to be provided. For example, in a block of flats—and incidentally, flats are very popular—there must be adequate lifts, a nursery for babies and a playroom for children, with workshops for father. Communal laundries are provided with all the latest washing and drying machines, and, of course, central heating.

Subsidy for Children

Sweden's increasing prosperity has meant an increasing demand for homes, and consequently a housing queue. Building your own home earns a building subsidy provided the house comes up to standard and an additional subsidy for children (this apart from the ordinary subsidy given to every child). The mother who rents her home will also be eligible for a subsidy provided the home is of the proper standard and is not owned by some other individual or company on a profit-making basis. Co-operative housing is very important in Sweden. Mostly the tenants themselves, in a block of flats or group of homes, form a little society and own their own homes.

(To be continued)



JOHN F. COOPER, who took over the post of general manager of the Northern Alberta Railways the first of the month. Entering the service of the Canadian National Railways as a clerk in the Audit department at Winnipeg in 1917, he was general superintendent of the Alberta district, C.N.R. prior to his new appointment.

N.Z. NATIONALISTS UNDO LABOR GAINS

OTTAWA (CPA)—The Nationalist government (Conservative) of New Zealand concluded its first session of parliament on Dec. 1. Among the legislation put through at this first session was a bill restoring capital punishment, which had been abolished by Labor. An amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act was also passed; removing the state monopoly of compensation insurance, and restoring it to private companies.

In Saskatchewan.

FREE TRAINING IS GIVEN APPRENTICES

REGINA—The provincial labor department has announced details of a new pre-employment training program in certain technical trades that will commence shortly. The program, designed to further alleviate the shortage of skilled tradesmen in Saskatchewan, will supplement the apprenticeship plan now in effect.

The department is now publicizing the program, which will include free training in six different trades. Classes will be given in electricity, carpentry and motor vehicle repair in the Backout Technical School in Regina; in sheet metal work in the Vocational Training School in Saskatoon, and in auto-body repair and welding in the Moose Jaw Technical School.

Pre-employment training differs from apprentice training in that a considerable amount of "off-the-job" training provided by the department is given before the apprenticeship contract is signed, usually before employment begins.

Represents Joint Effort

Pre-employment training will be specifically designed to prepare the trainee for the kind of work that will be expected of him by employers in Saskatchewan. Training courses will represent a joint effort on the part of employers and tradesmen in the trades concerned, department of labor officials and officials of the main technical schools in the province.

Applicants for the course will be required to give their consent to become apprentices with employers of their own choice or with those arranged for by the department after training is completed. Training will take the form of full-time day-classes lasting from three to six months.

If the trainee makes rapid progress, he will be given the chance to sign an apprenticeship contract

Health Costs

BRITAIN'S IS \$21; \$62 IN THE STATES

WASHINGTON, (LPA).—Medical care for the British people under their national health system is only four per cent of the nation's income, or just what our present inadequate medical care costs us, according to the Committee on Research in Medical Economics, headed by Dr. Michael M. Davis. The report recently published, blasts the current propaganda in American medical journals and the commercial press about the cost of the British medical system.

The report says the total cost of medicine in Britain today is about \$1,150,000,000 a year, counting everything, including some services not provided under the government's system. This is an average per capita cost of about \$21 a year for the 48,000,000 people covered. The average for all the 50,000,000 people in Great Britain is about \$23 per capita. The U.S. annual medical bill is now about \$9,300,000,000, the committee says. This is \$62 per capita for our 150,000,000 people.

"Thus, in the United States," the committee says, "we spend per capita for medical care over 2½ times as much as the British. Our national income is much larger than Britain's, even when figured on a per capita basis. Our total expenditures for medical care amount to, four per cent of our gross national income. Britain's medical expenditures come to four per cent of its income also."

Estimated Fairly Close

The report analyzed the mistakes in estimating the cost of the British program which have led to the stories in this country that it was too expensive. The cost of family physicians' service, the report says, had exceeded original estimates by only seven per cent. The volume of visits to physicians increased less than 10 per cent over the past. The costs of hospital service were 24 per cent higher than estimated originally, chiefly because of higher salary and wage rates.

The biggest discrepancies between original estimates and actual costs came in the dental services and the eye services, where no one had forecast the extent of the need which had not been met under private medicine.

A girl from the East took a position with a retail food store. She was warned that farmers were great jobbers, so she made up her mind not to be taken in by them. The first morning, a farmer came in and asked for some shorts (ground corn) for his pigs, and the girl replied, "I'm sorry, but we are out of pig shorts. How about some nice brassieres for your cows?"

The English teacher had been reading to the class about the great forests of America.

"And now, boys," he announced, "which one of you can tell me the pine that has the longest and sharpest needles?"

Up went a hand in the front row.

"Well, Tommy?"

"The pore!"

before the end of his training program, thereby obtaining special benefits. Training may be terminated if the trainee fails to make satisfactory progress. Time credits will be allowed on the apprenticeship period of the time the trainee spent in pre-employment training.

EDUCATION WORK ON LIQUOR URGED.

Approval was given to a resolution requesting the provincial government to spend \$100,000 a year, or up to 2 per cent of the government liquor profits, for education and propaganda to aid in reducing the consumption of liquor, when the C.C.F. Provincial Board dealt with a number of resolutions referred to it by the provincial convention.

It was pointed out that "the consumption of alcoholic beverages is steadily increasing to the detriment of our economy and the health and safety of the people."

"Because clerks, waitresses, hotel keepers, etc., do not always avail themselves of the free T.B. X-Ray clinics thus creating a grave danger to public health, it was suggested that wherever free T.B. X-Ray service is available, it be put on a compulsory rather than a voluntary basis.

Pointing to its good work in increasing cultural, recreational and social activities in the province, a resolution was passed asking the government to grant, increase the grants to the Extension Department of the University and the Bureau of Cultural Activities under the Department of Economic Affairs. The resolution further asked that consideration be given to the co-ordination of the work of the Dominion, Provincial Youth Training Scheme and the government Bureau of Cultural Activities with a special department at the University of Alberta to develop cultural and social activities needed by, and beneficial to, Alberta citizens.

In Sask.

MENTAL STAFF PAY COMPARES WITH U.S.

REGINA—Wages paid ward those paid similar employees in institutions compare favorably with staffs in Saskatchewan mental hospitals, the United States, it has been announced by Dr. D. G. McKerracher, director of psychiatric services, Saskatchewan Department of Public Health.

After an exhaustive study, the U.S. Council of State Governments has reported on mental health programs in 48 States. Its report shows that mental hospital ward employees in the United States are on the average paid in a wage range of \$1,218 to \$1,688, with maintenance. In Saskatchewan 18-year-old beginners receive \$1,584, including cost-of-living bonus, and move along to a maximum of \$2,304, as psychiatric aides. "Qualified personnel are eligible for higher paid positions as they become vacant. Maintenance is not provided, but efforts are made to house junior staff on the premises of an institution at nominal cost."

"Considering that wages in the United States are often higher than those paid in Canada for similar work, the higher wages for mental hospital workers here are of interest," Dr. McKerracher commented.

A parrot lived in the bar of an up-state New York inn and was accustomed to note the rush of business every Saturday night.

One Saturday it left its cage to explore the neighborhood and was eventually found in a field surrounded by crows, who were busily depriving it of its feathers.

When the rescue party arrived, the parrot was heard ejaculating: "One at a time, gentlemen, if you please. One at a time; you'll all be saved."

U.S. GETTING MORE SOCIAL SECURITY

OTTAWA (CPA)—While Ottawa reports no action in sight on old age pensions, Washington expands social security payments and provides coverage for 10,000,000 more workers.

With the cost of living steadily rising, the need for improved old age pensions in Canada becomes daily more urgent. The money is available for increased defence expenditures without delay, but the Ottawa government will not be rushed into spending more on pensions. Some observers still predict that rearmament will be used by the federal cabinet as an excuse to postpone indefinitely any new social security legislation.

Yet, in Washington, where defence costs are rising rapidly, the senate has just approved a large increase in old age and social security costs. The Associated Press reported that passage was by voice vote and "no opposition voices were heard." The bill now requires only President Truman's signature.


Under the new law the maximum family benefits are raised from \$86 to \$150 per month.

BIGGER ARMY THAN USSR URGED BY AFL

WASHINGTON (LPA)—The American Federationist, official magazine of the American Federation of Labor, has asked for a U.S. armed force larger than Russia's. It says the time for talk is over, that if we want to survive we must act quickly to surpass the Soviet in military strength. Daniel Robin, president of the A.F.L. Teamsters, suggested also last week that the A.F.L. drop its 65-year stand against universal military training.

LATEST RACE RULE ON AFRICAN PLANES

The latest rules of Apartheid in South Africa are the instructions issued to air hostesses of the South African Airlines to observe the color bar properly. It is required that the linen head-rests used by Indians or Africans must be removed immediately after use and sent for "hygienic processing or dry cleaning" instead of the usual laundering applied to the same articles used by Whites. Incidentally, non-Europeans pay the same fares as the Europeans on the South African planes.



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At a special ceremony in Washington, Michael DiSalle, former mayor of Toledo, O., is sworn-in as price administrator by Supreme Court Justice Tom Clark.

AT THE FARM CONVENTIONS

By R. H. CARLYLE, President, Alberta C.C.F.

THE annual conventions of major farm organizations in the province are over for another year. And, as has happened in the past with monotonous regularity, the majority of the resolutions passed were a part of the C.C.F. program.

In the provincial field, organized agriculture continues to press for hydro under public ownership and provincial automobile insurance. The provincial government was asked to amend the Alberta Marketing Act to enable producers to set up Provincial-Federal Marketing Boards.

A great deal of concern was expressed over the increase of animal diseases, and it was recommended that more research be done into methods of preventing



R. H. CARLYLE

such diseases as shipping fever, mastitis in cattle, Bang's disease, etc.

Coyote Control

One of the most interesting discussions at the annual meeting of the Federation of Agriculture was led by Eugene Grande, of the U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service, on coyote control in Montana. It was pointed out by sheepmen present that the sheep population of the province had declined from 955,000 to 114,000 in less than ten years. This was attributed to two factors; loss from coyotes and dogs, and the labor shortage during the war.

The Montana speaker said that losses in that state were practically negligible after the inauguration of their control program ten years ago. The use of the new poison, 1080, is the most important feature of the program. To date, the Provincial government has refused to use or give permission to use the chemical on account of the risk to humans and livestock, but it has been successfully demonstrated that if handled by trained men, it is not dangerous. Mr. Grande stated that they had trained a number of men sent from Saskatchewan, where a vigorous coyote campaign has begun.

Ask Feed Grain Policy

The Provincial government will be asked to adopt a feed grain policy which would assure farmers in crop failure areas an adequate supply of grain for their livestock. A similar policy for feed grain was also adopted. A great deal of good seed grain is sold to elevator companies immediately after harvest. Under the proposed plan, such grain would be purchased and held either in sealed granaries or elevators, and then sold to farmers needing good seed. It was pointed out that these schemes were not relief measures, as all grain would be sold on a cash basis, and there need be no losses involved.

Opposition to the County Act was expressed by the farm organization, chiefly because of

the undemocratic manner in which the council would be set up. An F.U.A. resolution asked that a plebiscite be required in a district, a 60 per cent majority in favor, before action could be taken.

The Wheat Pool convention passed a resolution, later endorsed by the Federation of Agriculture, vigorously opposing the exportation of natural gas from Alberta. Sponsors of the resolution doubted if it were possible to make any really accurate estimate of either the gas reserves or probable gas consumption in the future. They believed that this resource should attract new industries to the province, resulting in a much larger population and consequently greater local markets for our farm products and raw materials.

More Optimist

Discussion in farm conventions indicated that there was concern over rapidly rising prices, and it was felt that the farmers' net income might be lower in the coming year. There was, however, a more optimistic feeling at these conventions than at last year's conventions. At that time we appeared to be faced with a surplus of agricultural products in the near future, but the outbreak of the Korean war, and the danger of its spreading further, has relieved the anxiety from this source. As we have seen so often in the past, periodic wars with widespread suffering and loss of life appear to be necessary to prevent the accumulation of foodstuffs and other goods.

As with grave forebodings we enter this New Year, it surely must become more apparent to our farmers, individually and in their various farm organizations, that we cannot much longer tolerate a system which brings some measure of prosperity only in time of war, or threat of war. It is doubtful if mankind can survive without a new world order in which freedom and security are denied to no one, and in which an abundance will be a blessing rather than a curse.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND'S COMMUNITY POWER PROJECT

A few months ago at Bedouque, P.E.I., a switch was thrown and power sent surging through a line which has created more than usual interest in this Province. For some years the farmers of Lower Bedouque, Chilton and Ferwood have been trying to persuade one of the Power companies serving the Island to run a line through their areas. But always the answer was the same—the farms were too far apart. The line would not pay.

Doug MacFarlane, a former Provincial Secretary of the C.C.F. for the Province, wasn't satisfied with this explanation. He came up with the idea of a co-operative power line, and sold that idea to his neighbors. They could, he maintained, build the line themselves, buy the power from one of the companies, and charge themselves the cost of the service. The Summerside publicly owned utility agreed to supply the power. But the banks refused to supply the capital needed. Moreover, some of the farmers along the proposed line were afraid of the idea of a co-operative.

Joint Stock Company
Finally, a joint stock company

Sheriff: "Did you catch that auto thief?"

Deputy: "No. We'd just about caught up with him when our 1,000 miles were up and we had to stop and change oil."

was formed and a committee was appointed to approach the Provincial government for a loan to get the thing started. June 27th was election day. The Liberals swept the board in Canada. On the following day a delegation from the budding power company appeared before Liberal Premier Jants to ask provincial aid in building their line. "There was nothing to it," said one of the delegation later. "The Premier was bawling over with good cheer after the Liberal landslide, and he was in a very generous mood." The committee arranged for a provincial loan of twenty-five thousand dollars and they went home with the company's coffers full to the brim.

Work started immediately. Poles and equipment were ordered. Linemen were hired to do the technical end of it. The rest of the labor was done by them themselves. Every day that could be spared was devoted to the project. The poles were erected, the lines strung, the transformers hung in place, and the farm buildings wired for electricity.

Comes the Big Day

Finally the big day came. The

Joe: "If you have \$10 in one pocket and \$15 in the other, what have you?"

Mac: "I have on somebody else's pants."

switch was turned, and a long term dream was realized. At last this area which the utility companies would not touch was supplied with light and power. The cost of current will be fairly high, but not as high as it is in some parts of the province at present. The volunteer labor paid off too. The company was able to return thirty-five hundred dollars of its loan to the provincial treasury.

The number of customers on the line now stands at thirty-seven. Fifty families live in the area. The hope is that the others will gradually come into the company.

This method of self-help in supplying power is creating a great deal of interest in other parts of the province. The co-operative idea used may be the door which will open the avenue of light and power to other isolated sections which the private companies and even the Provincial Power commission will not touch. At any rate a good many eyes, tired of oil-lamp and lamps, are watching the Bedouque experiment closely. Maritime Commonwealth.

British Miners

(Continued from Page 1)
try, has greatly increased coal consumption.

Part of the problem is that there has been a fall in the number of men employed in the industry. The loss of manpower during the year ending in mid-September, 1950, was nearly 25,000. Greater mechanization of the mines is being steadily proceeded with. The problem can be solved by closest co-operation between workers and management. Experience in particular coalfields has demonstrated good results from such co-operation.

A young mother was changing her baby while her four-year-old looked on. When she neglected to sprinkle the tot with talcum powder before dressing him, the four-year-old was quite indignant. "Aren't you going to salt him this time?" he asked.

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(Continued from page 1)

profound differences, as much difference as there is between a Gandhi and a Mao.

It is, of course, completely unrealistic to think of the people of India, or of China, as a mass, having any detailed conception of what they want. Of one thing only can they be certain—they want to throw off what they've had. And if a Gandhi or a Nehru, or a Stalin or a Mao, is ready to lead them, speak for them, offer them hope, they're prepared to follow. The evidence of that is clear. And I for one, in both thought and emotion, find myself on the side of the struggling peoples of Asia. Nor can I believe that even Communist dictatorship in a country like China can be any worse at its worst for the Chinese than the corrupt tyranny and the vicious febrility of the past. Conceivably, it may be better. And even if it is not much better, the Chinese people have revolted, have risen in might against oppressors. They can do so again, and will, if they find Communism intolerable. In the meantime, Communism gave them the leadership in their insurgency, and the only regret one can have about that is that the democracies did not do it.

But if we even go to the extent of feeling kindly toward the leaders of China's revolution (as indeed we did toward the leaders of the Russian revolt against the evils of Czarism) there must be no tolerance of Communism's purpose and no failure to set up a defence against it when it threatens the destruction of democracy.

And it does. Now if there are those among us who think that doesn't matter, I can understand their tolerance of the thought of Communist success. But I think it does matter. It matters more than anything else on earth. I don't think anyone has a right to preach to me about the shortcomings of capitalism. Over the past three decades in which this paper has been published, my outcries have been recorded. But any comparison between what Communism has to offer and the way of life which the great majority of the people in the democratic countries enjoy, leaves me with an overwhelming horror of Communist domination of any part of the world which is now democratic. And I do not exclude those democratic countries which, through failure, of the people to use democracy, are most completely dominated by capitalism. I feel this way about it even if I were sure—and I certainly am not—that economic improvement would come to a country such as ours with Communism.

I read this story in a British Labor paper. "A Russian wolfhound came to England and was talking with an English bulldog. He boasted of all that good food he got at home, not just the scraps from the master's table, but the real thing, bones with meat on them. But he said he had decided to stay in England. 'But if you get all that good food and care in Russia, why are you going to stay here?' the bulldog asked. 'Yes, I suppose, it does seem funny,' the wolfhound replied, 'but, you see, a fellow likes to bark once in a while.' Well, I've been doing quite a bit of barking in the past thirty years, and I like to indulge myself by thinking that

it has been to some effect. And I want to go on barking against anything which appears to me to be an injustice, whether it be a widowed mother being kept in below-subsistence poverty by the niggardliness of a provincial government, the exploitation of the people of Canada by any aggregation of plundering plutocrats, or the stupidities or malevolence of men who may hold political power whether attained by force or by votes.

There is no fear of Communism becoming the dominant political movement in Britain, or Norway, or Sweden—in free votes the people are rejecting Communism and Communists—but military weakness on the part of the democracies will not only not prevent it, it will invite, Communist domination by physical force. We could hope that this is not a danger. But to do so would be to disregard the nature and purpose of Communism, or to be ignorant of it. I have learned from personal experience that the Communist purpose is uncompromising and unrelenting. It will not, *moté* shrink from imposing itself by force on all of Europe; if it feels strong enough, to do it, than the religious bigots of an earlier day who made "converts" by burning people at the stake or by conquering "heathen" territories. Because this is so, there is no valid argument against preparing for defence against Soviet Russia. It is the only hope of preventing the physical imposition of Communism on Western Europe. And if continental Europe succumb Britain will be faced with the choice of capitulation, or physical ruin. What we fear in this respect may come anyway. But I for one can't

countenance any policy which involves sitting around waiting hopefully for it to come. We did that in Hitler's case. The menace to democracy from Communism is just as great as anything Hitlerism had to offer, and Communism by its very nature cannot be appealed to successfully to relent or compromise its purpose. That is the vital factor in world affairs.

Solid Gains

(Continued from page 1)

might have been spent, and nothing permanent to show for it. Instead, through Socialist planning, and a grim prolongation of wartime austerity, that money was used to re-establish the economic solvency of the nation. Britain has regained her economic independence.

The paramount feature of this development is its vindication of Socialist principles; but there is another which Socialists who have shared in this achievement are frank to admit.

Grateful to U.S. We are not an emotional people, and we are not very articulate, said Hugh Gaultkill, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in making the announcement to the House of Commons. But these characteristics should not be allowed to hide the very real and profound sense of gratitude we feel toward the American people, not only for the material help they have given us but also for the spirit of understanding and friendship in which it has been given.

Aid to Socialist Britain, the chancellor told the British people over the B.B.C., cost every single American home an average of \$18 while aid to Europe has cost them \$28.

"I do not believe," he said, "that it has ever happened before that the people of one country have given help on such a scale in peacetime to the peoples of another country."

"Enlightened Self-Interest" The significance of America's act of "enlightened self-interest" has prompted a re-assessment in Socialist circles. A recent issue of the Socialist Commentary, published in London, states, in part:

"There remains a body of opinion which is unable to interpret U.S. policy as anything but the sinister moves of a capitalist power, which by the compelling power of its own innate laws, must inevitably act from provocative, imperialist motives, and must inevitably align itself with the most reactionary forces."

"Facts have not succeeded in dispelling distrust of America; for its main roots, as far as Socialist circles are concerned, lie in the belief that the capitalist class must, in the end, be driven by economic motives into expansionism and war. Yet here again the facts tell a different story. The expanding capitalist economies which led to the imperialist drive of an earlier generation have lost their old basis. There is no longer a considerable surplus of capital pushing abroad for investment; just the opposite is the case today, for capital can hardly be tempted abroad owing to the uncertainties of investment prospects and the good returns at home. More and more, the state and public international bodies must finance progressive reconstruction schemes overseas. In the U.S., the most reactionary capitalist circles which might justifiably be accused of containing the seed of Fascism, are isolationist and opposed to expansionist economic policies—such as the Marshall Plan and Point Four—which left-wing critics here are so ready to describe as American imperialism. It is, on the other hand, the American workers' move-

ment which has been the staunchest protagonist of the flow of American capital abroad. It is, after all, 1950, and not 1850."

World Aid Plans

Indeed, the British Labor Party has already acted in line with this re-assessment. Its 1950 policy statement, drawn up at the recent Margate conference, proposes "that work should start now on the preparation of a new long-term program—a World Plan for Mutual Aid—to succeed Marshall Aid in 1952."

Refuse To Expand

(Continued from page 1)

source, the Provincial Executive of the Ontario C.C.F. has issued a statement condemning Canada's scarcity-minded private steel companies for refusing to expand sufficiently to meet the nation's urgent needs.

The statement declares that "there is no effective alternative... except to start at once to build up Canadian steel production by an additional millions tons."

The executive points to the "humiliating spectacle" of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, C. D. Howe, getting down on his hands and knees in Washington to beg steel from a nation which is short of steel itself.

In the face of this crisis, says the statement, the federal government is not taking any steps to increase Canadian steel output.

The full text of the Ontario C.C.F. statement follows:

"The provincial executive of the Ontario C.C.F. believes that there is no effective alternative for meeting the nation's steel needs in peace or in an emergency except by starting at once to build up Canadian steel production by at least an additional million tons and by developing a program for using Canadian ore."

"As Ontario is Canada's major steel producer, the provincial government as well as the federal government has a responsibility to achieve this objective in the national interest."

"The present critical shortage of steel is primarily due to the refusal of private steel companies to expand productive capacity even when government assistance was offered to them."

"Now that the crisis is upon us, we are faced with the fact not only that private enterprise refuses to accept any responsibility but that the federal government too is not taking any steps to increase Canadian steel output. Instead, we have the humiliating spectacle of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Hon. C. D. Howe, acting as star salesman for the aluminum monopoly and begging a few tons of steel from the United States, which, in face of a national emergency, is short of steel itself."

"Moreover, instead of taking positive action to curb the rising cost of living, our government at Ottawa waits to see what Washington will do. In the light of President Truman's declaration, no further excuse exists for delaying action on price controls."

"We protest the federal government's lack of any effective policy to meet the present crisis, and we urge that parliament be reconvened early in January to deal with the emergency by checking inflation through price controls, by curbing profiteering, and by taking steps to increase steel production. Otherwise, maximum national effort will not be possible."

"We urge the provincial government to set up machinery to continue rent controls if and when federal controls are removed, and to use its powers under the Milk Control Act to protect producers and consumers."

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